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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Customer No. 000027777

Attorney Docket END 5255

Applicants: Biten K. Kathrani

Conf. 2562

Serial No.: 10/761,159

Art Unit: 3763

Filed : January 20, 2004

Examiner: Paul Smith

For : MEDICAL DEVICE FOR PROVIDING ACCESS

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I certify this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 21, 2006

/Gerry Gressel/  
Gerry Gressel

RESPONSE TO NONFINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED 09/21/2006

Dear Sir:

Please consider this response to the above mentioned office action.

Amendments to Claims begin on Page 2

Remarks begin on Page 6.